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CLIMATE ACROSS SYSTEMS · NO. 9

Heat, work and the price of delay

Which decisions can wait for a better forecast?

4 November 2026 · Reporting 28 Oct–3 Nov

GHANA · WORKING TIME

Lost hours are not lost job contracts

≈550,000 full-time equivalents of working time lost in 2040 Low-emissions scenario

BRAZIL · IRRIGATED VINEYARDS

When the rain becomes the greater worry

Irrigation buffered drought. Interviewed growers identified intense rain as more harmful.

Lovato and colleagues · Climatic Change · 30 October

FINANCIAL RISK · COMMENTARY

A central estimate is not a survival test

Reverse stress testing asks what combination of events would make a loss unbearable.

EMISSIONS CESSATION · MODELLING

The starting temperature changes what follows

Near-zero further warming at 1.5–2°C.
Further warming at higher levels.
One model; idealised experiments.

ANTARCTIC ICE · MODELLING

East is not West. The timescale matters.

Atmospheric feedbacks restrain East Antarctic loss in this model. West Antarctic ice remains vulnerable.

THE ARGUMENT

Waiting can preserve choice. It can also remove it.

A reversible workplace trial and a long-lived investment need different standards of evidence.

A PRACTICAL PROPOSITION

Test protection and payment together

Measure heat, earnings and disruption.
A protective break must be usable.
Proposition, not an approved programme.